2024
MYCELIUM
PARISH NEWS

WELCOME TO THE MYCELIUM!

The Mycelium Parish News is a compilation of interesting things from 2024[1].

The mycelium is a term that we first heard used by Daisy Campbell to describe underground cultural networks. This is not a formal organisation but a loose network of artists, magicians and mystics. This zine lists creations from our patch of mycelium, as well as interesting things from further afield.

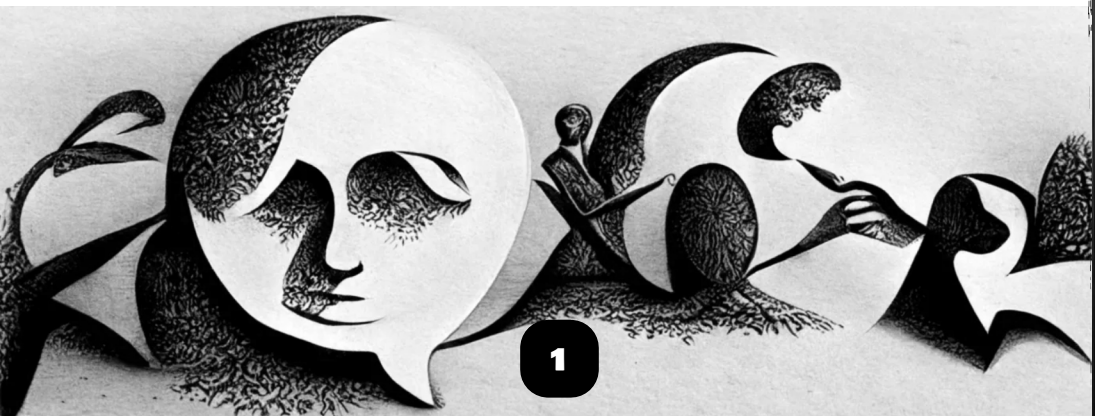
In nature, a mycelial network is made from the inter-connections that grow between fungi. These networks spread through the soil and the undergrowth, connecting together across huge areas. Sometimes, where these mycelic strands cross, mushrooms might appear. It's a brilliant metaphor for underground culture.

We've tried to make this edition more welcoming to newcomers, providing more context for the things we list. We want our magazine to invite people to get involved. We've also added a new section with the history of our particular mycelium.

For items that are online, we've added our own links via a URL shortener, to make them easier to type. Just use the address starting **eris.orbific.com** and we will get you to the right place.

We plan to keep doing this annual magazine for the foreseeable future and are always interested in submissions. Since you're reading this, you're now part of the mycelium. If you make anything during 2025 that seems to fit the sort of things we're into - mushrooms, magick, folklore and high weirdness - then send them to us: James is james@orbific.com and Dan is dan@sumption.org.

[1] We actually include things back to November 24th 2023, which is the day after Toxteth Day of the Dead - see the events section for more details on that.



A letter from the vicars

Thank you for picking up and reading the 2024 Mycelium Parish News. This is the third year that we have produced our publication. Each issue goes to print in early December as a physical zine and is published online once those copies are all distributed. Last year we printed 300 copies, and published the digital edition in July. We do our best to keep costs down, ensuring the magazine is small enough for standard UK Post.

As ever, we made some errors in the last edition, not least omitting the submission from the great John Constable. We've made sure to include that in this edition, and we're being extra careful not to make such a mistake again. We'll see.

If you're new here, think of this zine as an invitation to play a game: read the books; join an arts lab (or start one!); follow the mailing lists. You'll find invitations to solstice ceremonies, churches devoted to money burning, magic rituals unfolding through podcasts, and more. Make art of your own: run an event, create a wonderful hoax, or start a psychedelic film club with some friends. Invent a ritual and perform it in a gallery. Whatever it takes: make the world a stranger, more beautiful place.

Previous issues of the Mycelium Parish News are visible at the Internet Archive:

https://archive.org/details/mycelium-parish-news-2022/
https://eris.orbific.com/101
https://archive.org/details/mycelium-parish-news-2023/
https://eris.orbific.com/215

The Mycelium Parish News is produced by James Burt (aka The Walker) and The Pillock at Peakrill Press.

Thank you to Jayaprakash Satyamurthy and Ben Graham for their help with editing, and to all of our contributors for their submissions.

We're working on the 2025 Parish News. Please let us know anything that we should add by email to **james@orbific.com**

A Mycelic History

Linear history is only one way of looking at things, and not always the best. But, as part of our aim to make this easier to follow, here is an attempt at a mycelic history.

In 1965, the *Principia Discordia* was published in an edition of 5 copies in New Orleans. This book defined Discordianism, the worship of Eris, Greek goddess of chaos. It is either a joke disguised as a religion, or a religion disguised as a joke.

Another early spore was the founding of the first Arts Lab in London in 1967. This was a centre for collaborative creative projects, launching a movement that went on to inspire artists including David Bowie and Alan Moore.

In the mid-70s, writers Robert Shea and Robert Anton Wilson published the *Illuminatus!* Trilogy, a wild, conspiracy-fuelled novel inspired in part by the *Principia Discordia*. In 1976, Ken Campbell adapted the novel into a stage play in Liverpool, with Bill Drummond as the set designer.

In the early 1990s, Bill Drummond joined Jimmy Cauty in a band called the KLF, which often referred to Shea and Wilson's novel. The KLF became the UK's most successful band in 1991. They broke up in mysterious circumstances in 1992 and subsequently set fire to a million pounds of the money they'd made.

Cauty and Drummond bound themselves to a contract where they refused to discuss the KLF, also deleting their back catalogue so their records could no longer be sold. The band faded into obscurity. Their epic history was summarised in John Higgs' 2013 book, *The KLF: Chaos, Magic and the Band Who Burned a Million Pounds*, which connected the band to threads including Robert Anton Wilson, Dr Who and Alan Moore.

In 2014, Daisy Campbell began work on a theatrical adaptation of Robert Anton Wilson's biography, *Cosmic Trigger*. Something was in the air and the Festival 23 organisation held a three-day event in 2016. The following year, the KLF returned, announcing they were now undertakers, and founded the annual Toxteth Day of the Dead event.

In 2019, Daisy Campbell led a group of 69 pilgrims - including members of the Liverpool Arts Lab, as well as the editors of this zine - on an epic quest to perform a ritual at the exact centre of the large hadron collider. And in 2022, Dan and James decided that the things happening on the mycelium should be collected into an annual Parish Magazine.

Albion's Eco Eerie

We've not had a chance to read this yet ourselves, but any book by Phil Smith is worth checking out. This is Smith's response to the 'Haunted Generation', focusing on 'unhuman characters, the materials and the edgeland spaces'.

The Black Chapbook

RRH's *The Black Chapbook* is a 666-copy limited edition introduction to magick, setting out a three month course that takes the reader from breathing exercises to invoking spirits. The book is exclusive to Treadwell's bookshop in London who also handle mail order.

https://www.treadwells-london.com/product-page/the-black-chapbook-rrh
https://eris.orbific.com/220

Blotter

Blotter: The Untold Story of an Acid Medium by Erik Davies was published at the start of April. The book features over a hundred images from Mark McCloud's archive of LSD blotters. These perforated sheets of paper, used as a medium for distributing LSD, became works of art in their own right. As Matthew Rick said, "blotter is the last underground art that's going to stay underground, simply because you're creating something that looks and functions like a felony"

https://mitpress.mit.edu/9780262048507/blotter/
https://eris.orbific.com/336

Chaos And Beyond

At the end of 2023, Hilaritas Press released Chaos and Beyond, a collection of Robert Anton Wilson's best essays from his newsletter *Trajectories: The Journal of Futurism and Heresy*. Guest contributors include Timothy Leary, Linus Pauling, and George Carlin.

http://www.hilaritaspress.com/portfolio-item/chaos-and-beyond-the-best-of-trajectories/
https://eris.orbific.com/221

Chapel Perilous

Gabriel Kennedy's long awaited book, *Chapel Perilous: The Life and Thought Crimes of Robert Anton Wilson* was released in October, Available in both ebook and print formats, this is the first full biography of Wilson.

https://chapelperilous.us/
https://eris.orbific.com/15

⛪ diesekonstructionSongbook-vol 1: 2023

A collection of songs. photos and artworks by artist Mervyn Diese/Syna, to celebrate what he has created since his brain aneurysm in 2011, which is also a political diary of life in the UK under Tory rule since 2011.

https://amzn.eu/d/9dONnaV
https://eris.orbific.com/222

⛪ Electric Tibet

At the beginning of 2024, Bleeding Cheek Press published *Electric Tibet*, the first instalment of 'American Underground', Ben Graham's epic psychedelic odyssey through the 20th century's magical counterculture. This first book is set in San Francisco in 1967 and focused on the Human Be-In that kickstarted the Summer of Love. The limited edition paperback is sold out but ebooks are still available. Ben is currently working on the next book, *Savage Jubilee*.

https://bleedingcheekpress.bigcartel.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/223

⛪ Fenris Wolf

The twelfth issue of *Fenris Wolf* offers over 400 pages of essays on occult topics by contributors like Dave Lee, Gary Lachman, Devin Person, and Karin Valis. An essential read for anyone interested in the occult.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/9198945076
https://eris.orbific.com/224

⛪ Flange Zoo Bestiary

Inspired by the trans-dimensional realm of the Flange Zoo, this book by Lotan the Destroyer and Tiger Gnome contains a bestiary of creatures encountered there, including but not limited to Tiger Gnome, Loran The Destroyer and Kitsune Tsukai.

https://www.lulu.com/shop/calum-f-kerr-and-phillip-raymond-goodman/the-flange-zoo-bestiary/paperback/product-yvv6v2v.html
https://eris.orbific.com/225

⛪ Folklore Rising

Inspired by an encounter with druids in London, Ben Edge set out to record the folk rituals of Britain. *Folklore Rising* features Edge's paintings, along with accounts of these ceremonies, from Obby Oss events in the West Country, through to churches filled with clowns. This is a fantastic portrayal of Britain's strangeness.

https://shop.weirdwalk.co.uk/products/ben-edge-folklore-rising
https://eris.orbific.com/226

⛢ Goblin Queens & Qualia Knights

Phil Smith, aka Crab Man, is one of the most interesting writers on walking and place. In his recent book, *Goblin Queens and Qualia Knights*, he looks at mediaeval romance as a framework for readers to make quests and engage with a landscape of 'more-than-human others'.

https://www.triarchypress.net/qualia.html
https://eris.orbific.com/227

⛢ The Great When

Alan Moore's first novel in his five-book *Long London* series explores a fantasy world alongside our own. *The Great When* is set in 1949 and follows 18-year-old bookseller Dennis Knuckleyard who discovers a book that does not exist. The novel weaves some amazing historical figures into its fantasy narrative.

⛢ Hwaet

The last year has brought two very welcome new issues of *Hwaet*. Issue 4 was about 'Witchcraft and Cunning Folk', and the 5th was on 'Forests and Ancient Woodlands'. There are also reprints of the first few issues available. The zine mixes gorgeous illustrations with articles and even some playlists. It's great value and well worth searching out. Hwaet have also run some in-person events.

https://www.hwaetzine.co.uk/products
https://eris.orbific.com/228

⛢ The Manual (How to Make a Leyline the Easy Way)

Published by the KLF Reconstruction Society, *The Manual*'s design recalls the KLF's 1988 book on how to have a number one record. The book describes a 180-mile walk to create a ley-line. An epic work of psychogeography,

https://klfrscommunications.bandcamp.com/merch/the-manual-how-to-make-a-leyline-the-easy-way
https://eris.orbific.com/229

⛢ The Moon and Serpent Bumper Book of Magic

This long-awaited *Moon and Serpent* book is an introduction to magick by comics writer Alan Moore and the late Steve Moore. Rather than take the spooky or new age approach of many occult books, this one is inspired by children's annuals - but with rainy day activities such as summoning the dead. It also includes some of the last work by the late Kevin O'Neill. An essential read.

Northern Earth

Running since 1979, *Northern Earth* is a wonderful small magazine about archaeology, folklore, psychogeography and more. Every issue contains something curious and wonderful. A year's subscription is a mere £12 and is well worth the cost.

https://northernearth.co.uk/
https://eris.orbific.com/230

North Road Songbook

Verity Spott's latest collection, *The North Road Songbook* is an epic 250-page volume, collecting together eight poem sequences from the last five years, including the coronelles, written during lockdown.

https://goodpress.co.uk/products/the-north-road-songbook-by-verity-spott
https://eris.orbific.com/231

Outlandish

Outlandish is David Bramwell's new collection of writings, short stories and essays, celebrating his favourite countercultural heroes and some unconventional journeys. Among the cast are Werner Herzog, Gram Parsons and Marina Abramovic. It also reveals the story of how Andy Warhol's penis ended up on the moon.

https://oddfellowscasino.bandcamp.com/merch/outlandish
https://eris.orbific.com/232

'Patastrophe #9

The Surrealerpool Collage of Alchymical, Flâneurial and 'Pataphysical Studies released their latest zine in October. This features automatic writing, collage and articles on topics including André Breton, the London Surrealist Exhibition in 1936 and the *Story of O*. Surrealerpool's website features an extensive archive.

https://surrealerpool.home.blog/2024/10/04/patastrophe-9-published-15-october-2024/
https://eris.orbific.com/233
http://surrealerpool.online/
https://eris.orbific.com/234

Pixel Abuse

Another release from Philip Raymond Goodman, *Pixel Abuse* is a collection of lofi digital artwork mostly made on old computers and noughties phones, then edited with more modern software.

https://www.lulu.com/shop/phillip-raymond-goodman-and-phillip-raymond-goodman/pixel-abuse/paperback/product-2mv7wkm.html
https://eris.orbific.com/235

Primordial Chaos

Dave Lee's *Primordial Chaos* came out at the end of 2023, with a launch event held at Airy-Fairy alongside Dan Sumption's *King Arthur vs Devil Kitty*. The collection includes shorter essays and spells from across several decades back to when he was a founder member of the UK's first IOT group. It looks at his work across different magical communities. Dave adds contemporary commentary to these items.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Primordial-Chaos-Writings-Rituals-Then/dp/1739868862/

https://eris.orbific.com/250

Reality Is What You Can Get Away With

Another 2024 reprint from Hilaritas Press, this time of a film script by Robert Anton Wilson, along with an introduction by Joseph Matheny. RAW's proposed film follows a far-future anthropologist who finds a suppressed 20th century movie. There were some good discussions of this on the Hilaritas podcast.

http://www.hilaritaspress.com/portfolio-item/reality-is-what-you-can-get-away-with/

https://eris.orbific.com/236

http://www.hilaritaspress.com/podcasts/joseph-matheny-reality-is-what-you-can-get-away-with-magick-ritual-method-acting-and-more-episode-31/

https://eris.orbific.com/237

Roadside Magic

Libby Bove's *Roadside Magic* is a collection of old English customs relating to vehicular repair and maintenance. The book includes photos of traditional costumes associated with Cone Dancing, Welding Rituals and Clapping for Diesel. It's a strange and beautiful edition, part of the Antar True Folk Tales collection, and features a short introduction from Jimmy Cauty.

https://www.alimentation.cc/product/roadside-magic/

https://eris.orbific.com/238

The Rune Poems

The first half of *The Rune Poems: A Reawakened Tradition* features old rune poems alongside translations, explaining how these poems were used to consider the runes and train the mind. The second half features twenty poems by contemporary runic magicians, including Dave Lee.

http://chaotopia-dave.blogspot.com/2024/09/the-rune-poems-reawakened-tradition.html

https://eris.orbific.com/239

The Sex Magicians

Written after *Illuminatus!* but published before, *The Sex Magicians* was a pornographic novel by Robert Anton Wilson. RAW's first published novel, it had long been out of print, and copies could go for hundreds of dollars. It's now been republished by Hilaritas Press, along with introductions by Greg Arnott and Michelle Olley, who gave an interview for the Hilaritas Podcast:

http://www.hilaritaspress.com/podcasts/robert-anton-wilsons-the-sex-magicians-episode-36/

https://eris.orbific.com/240

Like Greg and Michelle, we liked the theory that this book was a sex magic ritual to get *Illuminatus!* published.

https://nocturnalrevelries.com/2017/07/23/the-sex-magicians-robert-anton-wilson/

https://eris.orbific.com/241

So Let It Be Written

Subtitled 'A Wizards' Guide to Metafiction' this is a collaboration between Devin Person and Eric J. Miller. Taking Devin's usual playful and down-to-earth approach to magick, it explores what metafiction can teach about the experience of existence, and includes discussions of Grant Morrison and Italo Calvino.

https://www.lulu.com/shop/eric-j-millar-and-devin-person/so-let-it-be-written-paperback/paperback/product-v8k6we4.html

https://eris.orbific.com/242

Songbook of the Lorb

A book of worshipful hymns, sermons and poetry dedicated to the Lorb aka the Leviathan Lobster God.

https://www.lulu.com/shop/phillip-raymond-goodman-and-phillip-raymond-goodman/songbook-of-the-lorb/paperback/product-7kgnvpe.html

https://eris.orbific.com/243

Strange Things Are Happening

Richard Norris's autobiography describes his career from early punk bands to his involvement in the early days of acid house as well as Norris's relationship with characters such as Timothy Leary and Genesis P Orridge. The book is very readable, and recommended even if you're not yet a fan of Norris's work.

https://store.whiterabbitbooks.co.uk/products/strange-things-are-happening

https://eris.orbific.com/244

Tales of Illuminatus

Bobby Campbell has been releasing instalments of *Tales of Illuminatus*, an official comic-book adaptation of Shea and Wilson's *Illuminatus!* Campbell ran a successful kickstarter to produce a printed version of issue one. This is an epic project, and essential for Wilson fans.

https://talesofilluminatus.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/245

Terra II

A Hilaritas Press reprint of a rare Timothy Leary work, this is his plan for the "biggest 'prison break' in human history", building a giant star ship. Written in collaboration with Lynne Wayne Benner, this was originally published in an edition of just 1000, this edition includes an introduction by Oz Fritz.

http://www.hilaritaspress.com/portfolio-item/terra-ii-a-way-out/
https://eris.orbific.com/246

They Worship Skyscrapers

Produced as part of the Horkos Ceremony (see our events section), *They Worship Skyscrapers* is Phillip Raymond Goodman's novel, which describes a strange vision of London populated by weird cults. It's inspired by Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere* and Grant Morrison's *The Invisibles*.

https://www.lulu.com/shop/phillip-raymond-goodman-and-phillip-raymond/they-worship-skyscrapers/paperback/product-84n8q44.html
https://eris.orbific.com/247

Those We Look at with Closed Eyes

This curious book, a supposed history of The KLF, was produced by Julien Demeuzois and has been approved by Bill Drummond. It features Albine Desray's account from the 1930s about two strange patients in a Paris hospital. The book is illustrated with AI-generated period-style photographs, which make good use of AI's uncanny nature. It's an interesting way of revisiting the KLF's history.

https://www.alimentation.cc/product/those-we-look-at-with-closed-eyes/
https://eris.orbific.com/248

Time for Magic

Time for Magic explores the artistic legacy of Jamie Reid. While Reid was known for his work with the Sex Pistols, *Time for Magic* takes a much wider view of his career, particularly the influence of paganism. The introduction, by Philip Carr-Gomm, discusses the importance of the wheel of the year, which is used as a way of approaching Reid's art.

https://watkinspublishing.com/books/time-for-magic-by-jamie-reid-stephen-ellcock-john-marchant-and-philip-carr-gomm/
https://eris.orbific.com/251

Peakrill Press

Peakrill Press, publishers of the Mycelium Parish News, has again completed multiple kickstarters, and broadened its range of publications with several paperback books...

⏃ True Clown Stories by James Burt

True Clown Stories is a collection of short stories about clowns and the awful things they do. Stories about people who want to be entertaining, who want to bring people some innocent joy, but who have been thwarted by reality. These are stories about people who've devoted themselves to red noses and giant shoes but struggle to survive.

https://peakrillpress.etsy.com/uk/listing/1807835387/true-clown-stories-by-james-burt-and

⏃ ***https://eris.orbific.com/340***

⏃ How to be Bozz by Chris Barker

Inspired by the Molesworth books of Willans and Searle, this is not the only biography of Boris Johnson to be published this year, but it is the funniest.

https://peakrillpress.etsy.com/uk/listing/1793678508/how-to-be-bozz-by-alexander-de-pfefel

⏃ ***https://eris.orbific.com/341***

⏃ Reading Between the Lives by Derek West

A series of semi-autobiographical short stories, following the life of Harold, from pre-war schoolboy, to young man, husband, father and beyond, based in Wallasey, Merseyside, during the first half of the 20th century. Written by Harold's youngest son Derek, with beautiful illustrations from Harold's middle son Howard, it's the tale of one man's journey, and the lives he touches along the way.

https://peakrillpress.etsy.com/uk/listing/1820144050/reading-between-the-lives-by-derek-west

⏃ ***https://eris.orbific.com/342***

⏃ Crab & Bee's Matter of Britain

Currently crowdfunding: Crab & Bee's new Matter of Britain, by Helen Billinghurst & Phil Smith, is a radical re-writing of the folk tales of old Albion, a banishing spell against nostalgia, and a magical working for the remaking of the Matter in the ruins of the present, from the treasures of the past, speaking into the bodies of weird future.

https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/dansumption/crab-and-bees-matter-of-britain

⏃ ***https://eris.orbific.com/343***

30 years of the A Band

The A Band were a musical collective that emerged from 1980s Nottingham. With no fixed membership the band changed their name to a new one beginning with A for every gig. This book contains a tour diary and 'other oddments'

https://www.lulu.com/shop/phillip-raymond-goodman-and-max-leonard-hitchings-and-simon-murphy-and-james-shearman/a30-30-things-for-30-years-of-the-a-band/paperback/product-w4vr5kv.html

https://eris.orbific.com/252

THINGS TO READ: mailing lists

Changes in social media have made it harder than ever for people to reach their audiences through these services, with algorithmic feeds penalising links off the sites. This has led to a resurgence of email as a way of keeping in touch with people. All of the lists below are ones we've enjoyed over the past year and are well worth keeping an eye on, even if you don't want to read every issue.

And, of course, you could always start your own mailing list. Substack is currently a good free option - although there have been issues in the past with its attitude to free speech extending to actual nazis. For now, it seems like a good place for people to start.

We also recommend **groups.io** which supports free mailing lists for up to 100 people if you need to plan something - much easier than managing lists of people though cc lists on email.

Airy Fairy

Sheffield's Airy Fairy is more than a magic shop, building up a community over its 25 years. There's a cafe and regular events, including the Goddess temple, and workshops. Over the past year, sessions have been run by Dave Lee (8 Musics for 8 Magics), Aitch (on shamanism) and more. The mailing list is well worth reading, even if you only rarely get to visit the shop itself.

https://www.airyfairy.org/index.php?route=account/newsletter

https://eris.orbific.com/48

Arthur Pendragon

King Arthur Pendragon, pagan leader and eco-campaigner continues his crusade against English Heritage and their restrictions on religious gatherings at Stonehenge.

https://arthurpendragon.substack.com/

https://eris.orbific.com/55

Burning Shore

Erik Davies has been discussing and promoting underground culture since the 1990s, when he wrote *Techgnosis*. In 2019 he released *High Weirdness*, which looked at the works of Philip K. Dick, Terence McKenna, and Robert Anton Wilson. His mailing list explores "the intersection of alternative religion, media, the popular imagination, and the cultural history of California".

https://www.burningshore.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/198

Chaotopia

Regular updates from chaos magician Dave Lee, outlining upcoming courses, as well as his frequent articles for zines and websites. Dave also runs a patreon.

https://linktr.ee/david23lee
https://eris.orbific.com/201
https://chaotopia.us11.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=bad98b0a038112e56579f4fba&id=117224d42b
https://eris.orbific.com/53

Church of Burn

The Church of Burn is working towards a huge public launch, but Reverend Jon Harris continues to make regular updates through his Substack. The idea of money-burning often triggers strong reactions, but Jon has thought carefully about this and we recommend putting aside your preconceptions and letting Jon tell you how setting fire to currency can improve your life.

https://churchofburn.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/346

David Bramwell

David Bramwell has a regular mailing list with updates on his work, as well as new releases from his band Oddfellow's Casino

https://www.drbramwell.com/newsletter
https://eris.orbific.com/49

Happy Hauntology

Simon Indelicate launched his new mailing list with *The Occult Technology of the Rollercoaster*, discussing the relationship of rollercoasters to ritual magic. Other pieces have included a manifesto for the 'happy hauntology' genre.

https://simonindelicate.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/253

Hilaritas Press

Hilaritas continues doing an impressive job in reprinting obscure work from Robert Anton Wilson and Terrence McKenna alongside related work. They also produce a monthly podcast. They have recently redesigned their website and an email list signup is at the bottom of the page.

https://www.hilaritaspress.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/254

John Higgs Octannual Manual

John Higgs Octannual is published eight times a year, in line with the wheel of the year. As well as providing updates on John's books and the activities of the East Sussex Psychedelic Film Club, the Octannual often includes John's thoughts on current issues. It was also the place where he announced the limited edition KLF-book aprons that came out this year.

https://johnhiggs.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/51

Kate Shields

Kate is a Brighton-based multi-disciplinary artist whose work has explored health, disability and queer culture. Her recent work has featured stone circles, archaeology and apocalypse.

https://kateshields.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/255

You can check out the artwork *A Stone Circle for the Future* online:

https://vimeo.com/982745047
https://eris.orbific.com/256

Mercurial Minutes

Substack is full of newsletters about AI, but we've not found any quite like this one. Karin Valis has been sending out provocative and interesting posts about the weirder aspects of machine learning and generative AI. If you're interested in fortean applications of technology then you must check this out. A good place to start is this essay:

https://mercurialminutes.substack.com/p/glitched-encounters
https://eris.orbific.com/257
https://mercurialminutes.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/258

Microfictions

Parish News editor James/The Walker sends out a weekly short story on his list, along with a recommendation for something else to check out. Into its second year, *Microfictions* includes strange and sometimes disturbing fiction.

https://microfictions.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/199

The Mycelium Newsletter

This email has been silent for a while, but it serves as a good place to hear about new projects from Daisy Campbell and gang. Sign up and be patient.

https://the-mycelium.us3.list-manage.com
https://eris.orbific.com/54

The Mycoleum Mind

The Mycoleum Mind list, run by Dan Sumption, sends tiny posts on 'philosophy, psychology, language, lifehacks, and magic', each designed to be read in a minute. "Short. Sometimes sweet. Thoughts"

https://peakrill.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/213

Paul Watson

Artist Paul Watson sends a monthly email featuring links to recent artwork and blog posts, which have taken on topics including AI ethics and the English weird. Paul also includes links to interesting things he's found

https://lazaruscorporation.us2.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=d55bd35a272bf5fc5b4ec09b9&id=5a38373424
https://eris.orbific.com/58

Stone Club

We love Stone Club! Founded in the pandemic, the club has a mailing list that anyone can sign up to. But we recommend paying the fee to become a full member and receiving their welcome pack, which includes a badge and membership card. The mailing list includes upcoming events and a 'stone of the month'

https://stoneclub.rocks/join
https://eris.orbific.com/197
https://stoneclub.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/259

Thomas Sharp

Poet Thomas Sharp has been putting on amazing events including artistic happenings, and solstice gatherings in Hackney Marshes. He was also the instigator of the world's largest fairy ring, hiding brass mushrooms in a circle around the city of London as a magical encounter with the faerie nature of finance. He is also working on an ongoing project called *Our Longland is Dreaming*. He also organised an Abyssmas cabaret

https://thomassharp.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/261
https://ourlonglandisdreaming.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/262

There is Nothing Left to Say (On the Invisibles)

Travis Hedge Coke's epic work of criticism has continued throughout the last year, using the comic as a gateway to a wide range of subjects. This is a deliriously experimental and personal work.

https://travishedgecoke.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/260

Urban Spaceman

Ben Graham is a poet, magician, music writer and novelist based in East Sussex. The Urban Spaceman is his irregular email, arriving every month or two, but always a joy to receive. He writes about culture that he has enjoyed with an enjoyable enthusiasm.

https://bengraham23.substack.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/119

Ben also had some poems published in the Spring 2024 issue of Viper's Tongue Quarterly, which is sold via L-13 Light Industrial Workshop

https://l-13.org/product/vipers-tongue-1-4-ly-spring-summer-autumn-2023-poetry-and-prose/
https://eris.orbific.com/263

THINGS TO READ: links

The Blake Cottage Trust

The cottage where William Blake lived in the Sussex village of Felpham has been falling into ruin and the Blake Cottage Trust have set out to save it. With Bruce Dickinson from Iron Maiden as their patron, this group of volunteers are working to save the cottage for the nation. John Higgs has written about this for the Big Issue

https://www.bigissue.com/opinion/william-blake-cottage-trust-jerusalem/
https://eris.orbific.com/264
https://www.blakecottage.org/
https://eris.orbific.com/265

Daily Grail

The Daily Grail publishes articles about esoteric subjects and contributors have included John Reppion and Cat Vincent. The site also publishes a daily round-up of links on "the fringes of science and history". It's a good place to keep an eye on all sorts of Fortean news.

https://www.dailygrail.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/296

The Dream-Fishing Society

Kate Alderton is a dream practitioner, whose activities include “dreamtending, deep listening, dream-activism, art, and embodied dreaming”. She explores creativity and healing through dreams, in both one-on-one work and community events.

https://dreamfishingsociety.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/266

Eruditorum Press

Eruditorum Press hosts a range of projects, including El Sandifer’s *Tardis Eruditorum* (an experimental critical history of *Doctor Who*) and *Last War in Albion* (a history of British comics imagined as a magickal battle between Morrison and Moore). The platform also features podcasts *Pop Could Never Save Us* and *I Don’t Speak German*. Support them via Patreon for early access to new content.

https://www.eruditorumpress.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/267
https://www.patreon.com/elizabethsandifer/posts
https://eris.orbific.com/268

Higgs x Dickinson

Iron Maiden fan John Higgs got to interview Bruce Dickinson. They discuss their love for William Blake as well as how Iron Maiden gigs are magic rituals:

https://thequietus.com/interviews/bruce-dickinson-iron-maiden-interview/
https://eris.orbific.com/269

Hookland

Hookland’s substack list appears to have gone silent, but the project has returned to its roots in microblogging on Bluesky. Featuring messages from an imaginary English county, this is a wonderful evocation of folklore and an amazing use of social media for storytelling.

https://hookland.substack.com
https://eris.orbific.com/52
https://bsky.app/profile/hookland.bsky.social
https://eris.orbific.com/270

Ignore These Objects

When 18th century astronomer Charles Messier was hunting for comets, he produced a list of items that were not comets and could be ignored. These are now known as Messier Objects and the TUSK project (Toxteth University of Surrealist Kinetics) has overlaid the stellar chart of Messier Objects onto a map of Toxteth, then visited the sites to create a catalogue of the ignorable objects found there. There is also a printed book available.

http://tusk.org.uk/
https://eris.orbific.com/271

The Modern Antiquarian

Launched in 2000, Julian Cope's *Modern Antiquarian* website is a treasure trove of information on ancient sites across Europe. Recently revamped, the site also features a popular forum.

https://www.themodernantiquarian.com/
https://eris.orbific.com/272

RAW Illumination

Posting daily, the RAW Illumination website is a great resource for all sorts of news related to Robert Anton Wilson, Rob Shea and all related topics.

http://www.rawillumination.net
http://eris.orbific.com/09

Penkiln Burn

Named after a small river in Southwest Scotland, Penkiln Burn is Bill Drummond's website which showcases his various artistic projects. Many of these are designed to be ephemeral or participatory.

The Life Model is a biography of Drummond, written by 168 contributors, and available on his website in a 71-day cycle, with one year appearing on each day. It is a book that defies binge-reading.

https://www.penkilnburn.com/home/the-life-model/
http://eris.orbific.com/297

The Elderly Gentleman is a 'spoken novel' composed of 154 letters that were written to an anonymous recipient. These letters were written over the course of a year, and appear annually on the anniversary of their creation, inviting readers to experience the work gradually over time.

https://www.penkilnburn.com/home/the-elderly-gentleman/
http://eris.orbific.com/298

Tenzing Scott Brown, the third volume of Drummond's Life Triptych, includes a series of plays available to listen to on the Penkiln Burn website - but only on Wednesdays. These recordings may vanish without warning in the future.

https://www.penkilnburn.com/home/tenzing-scott-brown/
http://eris.orbific.com/299

The *Hear Hard* tour features intimate performances in a number of locations, and will continue until May 2025.

http://www.penkilnburn.com/home/hear-hard
http://eris.orbific.com/300

These projects were announced through his email list, although the most recent communication stated that only 40 more newsletters would be sent, and these would be physically posted to only 40 individuals.

⛢ Blank Badge

The *Unconvention* album features tracks recorded for the 2021 Invisibles Unconvention at Hundred Years Gallery, along with a set that was performed at the event.

https://theinvisiblesalon.bandcamp.com/album/unconvention
⛢ ***http://eris.orbific.com/273***

The group also released *Bad Punk Ritual*, which was originally recorded for the *Bad Punk* show on Resonance FM and has been released on the Invisible Salon bandcamp with new artwork

https://theinvisiblesalon.bandcamp.com/album/bad-punk-ritual
⛢ ***http://eris.orbific.com/274***

⛢ Drass

Shardcore's musical alias Drass combines electronic music with AI-generated art. Two singles were released this year. *Reaperman* came out in July.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Me3seB-FZyY
⛢ ***http://eris.orbific.com/301***

August brought a cover of Kerosene by Big Black, marking the death of Steve Albini earlier in the year:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vEvcNNiFi60
⛢ ***http://eris.orbific.com/302***

⛢ The Indelicates

The Indelicates released their new album *Avenue Qanon*, which is a darkly satirical look at the state of the world. The songs follow characters who've fallen down the online rabbit holes, but the band are never scornful. The lyrics are sharp and the music is epic, with lines that stick in your head for days. The album was released in October and soon came to take on a dark significance following the US election.

https://avenueqanon.indelicates.xyz/
⛢ ***http://eris.orbific.com/275***

⛢ KLFRS

The 2023 Toxteth Day of the Dead included a live recording of the KLF's classic ambient album *Chill Out*. This recording is now available on bandcamp as *Chill Out (Live at the Depository)*, and there are promises of further live outings for this recreation. The KLFRS (The KLF Re-enactment Society) also released the K-Vision album, "Kommemorating the 2001st Anniversary of the discovery of THE K-LINE."

https://klfrscommunications.bandcamp.com/
⛢ ***http://eris.orbific.com/303***

MAP 71

MAP 71 released *Symbolic Neon*, a remix EP featuring new versions of *Aerial Eyes* and *Corn Dolly* from last year's *Blood Fruit* album.

https://map71.bandcamp.com/album/symbolic-neon
http://eris.orbific.com/304

Meltzer

Andrew O'Neill has launched their new cold-war-obsessed thrash metal project *Meltzer*. A demo was released on Bandcamp and more music is promised in the future.

https://meltzer667.bandcamp.com/album/demo
http://eris.orbific.com/305

Mzylkypop

Michael Somerset Ward's *Mzylkypop* released its second album *Threnodies and Ad Hocs*, featuring powerful vocals from Sylwia Anna Drwal along with other guest vocalists.

https://discusmusic.bandcamp.com/album/threnodies-and-ad-hocs-171cd-2024
http://eris.orbific.com/306

Naked Grace Missionaries

Featuring Robert Burnham, Fayann Smith, and Isabella Steinsdotter, The Naked Grace Missionaries released *The Ceremony of the Keys*. The album delivers "sermons as songs from the Bible of popular culture."

https://thenakedgracemissionaries.bandcamp.com/track/speaking-in-tongues
http://eris.orbific.com/307

Oddfellow's Casino

David Bramwell's band Oddfellow's Casino have released a live album *The Lewes Psych Fest Sessions*. This is the band's first live recording and provides a great introduction to their music.

https://oddfellowscasino.bandcamp.com/album/the-lewes-psych-fest-sessions
http://eris.orbific.com/308

PRG

Phillip Raymond Goodman has released a series of albums over the past year through a variety of projects, including Infinite Axolotl - *Velvet Sand Beat Generator and The Drone Factory* (manipulated sounds generated via LLM), Psychik Gnome - Dungeon Synth produced on the Yamaha PSS-30, and Leak Beats - polyrhythmic beats made from the sounds of water leaking through a broken ceiling.

https://vaporousknights.bandcamp.com/
http://eris.orbific.com/344
https://generalharm.bandcamp.com/album/volume-one
http://eris.orbific.com/312

Shoon

Promising “songs of love, murder, infidelity and cuckoos”, Sheffield’s Shoon released their eponymous 4-track EP in May this year. They play interpretations of traditional songs alongside their own material

https://open.spotify.com/artist/5bXsKevVkWrc82mv2RGO3T
http://eris.orbific.com/313

Steinsdotter

Following last year’s mixtape, Steinsdotter has been releasing new music every full moon throughout 2024. This has included meditation tracks such as *Sol frequency 126.22Hz*, a 23.23 min ‘euphoric experience’ and dance pop like *HoneyBee*.

https://www.instagram.com/iamsteinsdotter/
http://eris.orbific.com/314

Steve “Fly” Pratt

The First Trip is an album by Steve “Fly” Pratt, featuring the bands named in *Illuminatus!* and combining Pratt’s work with AI tools. The album was released alongside Bobby Campbell’s *Tales of Illuminatus!* comic.

https://stevefly.bandcamp.com/album/the-first-trip
http://eris.orbific.com/315

The Lost Doctor

The ongoing Lost Doctor project is an audio drama series, charting an alternative history for *Doctor Who*, where Ken Campbell took the role of seventh doctor rather than Sylvester McCoy. A number of episodes have been released over the last year. Campbell’s voice is provided by actor Tom ‘not that one’ Baker. The stories have their own developing mythology that often includes mycelic references.

https://soundcloud.com/the-lost-doctor
http://eris.orbific.com/282

The two-part-series *Transit of Venus* launched on New Year’s Day. This was recorded live by the Lost Doctor Kollective and Liverpool Arts Lab at Bidston Observatory Artistic Research Centre. The episode features Jeremiah Horrocks, the seventeenth century astronomer, as well as the chilling Tick Tock Men.

Ben Graham wrote the next episode, *The Dreamstop Implodes*. It was inspired by the mythology of Damanhur, - a community that has its own time machine, and theories about how time-travel works - which Ben visited on the Cerne-to-CERN pilgrimage. It features Kate Alderton and Andrew O'Neill playing a talking aspidistra plant (a reference to 80s BBC show The Adventure Game)

In production is the final script by the late, great Jeff Merrifield

Adventures in Nutopia

The third series of the Adventures in Nutopia podcast continued its search for new stories and radical movements that might steer us into a better future. Series Three included a tribute to Alan Watts, discussions of intelligence and consciousness, all delivered with a light touch.

https://druidry.org/adventures-in-nutopia-podcast
http://eris.orbific.com/316

F23 Podcast

While the F23 Podcast is currently dormant, its archive is packed with classic episodes, including excellent interviews with Grant Morrison, Bang Crosby, and Megan Clifton. Subscribe now to catch future releases, and enjoy the archive.

https://www.buzzsprout.com/1047874
http://eris.orbific.com/317

Graceland in the Glens

Available through BBC Sounds, this play features an encounter between Bill Drummond's mind and the spirit of Elvis Presley. The 2019 threats from Elvis Presley Enterprises to sell Graceland to the highest bidder leads Bill Drummond towards his encounter with Elvis.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0hb2byq
http://eris.orbific.com/318

Hilaritas Press

Released on the 23rd of every month, the Hilaritas Press Podcast features discussions on Robert Anton Wilson's work and related topics. Recent guests include RU Sirius, Joseph Matheny, and Michelle Olley.

http://www.hilaritaspress.com/podcasts/
http://eris.orbific.com/319

The Inadvisable Trapdoor

Mixing strange comedy and occult interviews, Andrew O'Neill's podcast works perfectly. Guests this year included Richard Norris and Daisy Campbell. Also in 2024, Andrew performed a completely rewritten version of their show *The History of Heavy Metal* at the Download, Glastonbury and Edinburgh festivals. Their show *Geburah* received five stars in the Daily Telegraph, which is impressive for a piece which climaxes with the ritual magickal killing of King Charles III to solve the housing crisis.

https://shows.acast.com/the-inadvisable-trapdoor
http://eris.orbific.com/276

⛪ John Higgs

While John Higgs doesn't have a podcast of his own, he is a regular and compelling guest. We particularly liked his appearance on *The Wind-Thieved Hat* where he talked about his technique for writing a book: "The book already exists in the future and you're just trying to reveal it – you're just trying to find out what it is."

https://www.richardholman.com/wind-thieved-hat/2024/6/17/john-higgs-writer
⛪ ***http://eris.orbific.com/320***

⛪ Joseph Matheny

Poet Joseph Matheny is famous for the creation of *Ong's Hat*, a multi-media artwork regarded as an important work of transmedia art. While Matheny does not have his own podcast, he's done some fascinating appearances over the past year, discussing topics such as the links between magick and improv, Robert Anton Wilson, and the early days of the web. We particularly recommend the following:

https://thelongseventiespodcast.libsyn.com/joseph-matheny-interview-ongs-hat-the-alchemy-of-alternative-realities
⛪ ***http://eris.orbific.com/277***

http://www.hilaritaspress.com/podcasts/joseph-matheny-reality-is-what-you-can-get-away-with-magick-ritual-method-acting-and-more-episode-31/
⛪ ***http://eris.orbific.com/278***

https://open.spotify.com/show/5ykU8XusyxPvuWxhR6kOf6
⛪ ***http://eris.orbific.com/279***

⛪ This Podcast is a Ritual

Devin Person has committed himself to being a wizard, costume and all, and takes a refreshing, open-minded approach to magic. *This Podcast is a Ritual* is an ongoing magical act in audio form, featuring interviews, ideas and Devin's thoughts. Always interesting, this podcast is highly recommended.

https://www.personisawake.com/podcast
⛪ ***http://eris.orbific.com/280***

⛪ Subterraneans Podcast

A narrative podcast about the underground history of London, *Subterraneans* has a wonderful way of starting out plausible before things turn strange. The 5th season concluded at the start of 2024, and the next one is imminent. Featuring pirate radio, phantom underground platforms, and haunted typefaces, James Thompson's series has them all.

https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/subterraneans-podcast/id1475124265
⛪ ***http://eris.orbific.com/281***

Uncanny Landscapes

Uncanny Landscapes continues its explorations into landscape, place and hauntology. The podcast features some excellent music selections, and Justin Hopper is an engaged interviewer. Justin also performed a new one man show this year, *The Great Satanic Swindle*, 'a true-crime folk-horror performance lecture' about 1980s England which is highly recommended.

https://uncannylandscapes.podbean.com/
http://eris.orbific.com/321

THINGS TO WATCH

Cerne-to-CERN

The Cerne-to-CERN pilgrimage in 2019 was a journey by 69 pilgrims from the Cerne Abbas Giant to perform a ritual in a field at the centre of the Large Hadron Collider. On the way, the group stopped at the stunning underground temples built by the community at Damanhur. Adam Baker's video *CERNE to CERN - THE EYES* was produced to mark the five year anniversary of this quest.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y7egk849OnM
http://eris.orbific.com/283

DeepSNAKES

DeepSNAKES is a multimedia project from Karina Bush and Daniel Harlow, pairing AI-generated video with poetry. The project has featured works by several poets, including Thomas Sharp and Dan Sumption.

http://www.deepsnakes.com/
youtube.com/@deepsnakes

Magick Hastings

While not yet on general release, we're eagerly waiting for *Magick Hastings*. This movie, by Michael Smith and Maxy Bianco, explores the occult layers to this seaside town, which it describes as 'The Occult Capital of England'. The film premiered in Hastings' smuggler's caves.

https://www.caughtbytheriver.net/2024/10/magick-hastings-michael-smith-maxy-bianco/
http://eris.orbific.com/284

Future screenings and release information can be found at the film's website

https://magickhastings.co.uk/
http://eris.orbific.com/335

⛢ Magick Show

Richard Metzger, who edited the classic Disinformation *Book of Lies* returned with a Kickstarter to support *Magick Show*, an epic documentary on magick, featuring interviews with over 50 practitioners, including the last interview with Kenneth Anger. The kickstarter raised enough money to support the project going forward. Metzger has described these interviews as "a hyper-sigil conjuring a powerful evocation to awaken, inspire, and unite the next generation of magician warriors". It's worth checking out some of Metzger's many promotional interviews, especially his one with Douglas Rushkoff.

The best place to go for updates on this project seems to be the Kickstarter page:

https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/richardmetzger/magick-show-a-masterclass-in-modern-occultism

http://eris.orbific.com/286

⛢ The Map is Not the Territory

Dolly Rae Star's youtube channel is about 'Adventures in awareness', featuring videos about "Radical Undoing, Qigong and other experiments and explorations"

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCttVabtIBXC-VkLbNPeOI3Q

https://eris.orbific.com/45

⛢ Royal Institution Lectures

Last year, Professor Mike Wooldridge delivered the Royal Institution Lectures, promising to deliver *The Truth About AI*. The second lecture, *My AI Life*, examined the real-world impact of AI tools and featured Shardcore discussing image generation technology.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001tv98

http://eris.orbific.com/322

EVENTS

This section lists some of the events that took place over the last year. Some of these are recurring, and others were one-offs. Where possible, we've tried to suggest how to catch up with future such events.

EVENTS: recurring

ESP FC

The East Sussex Psychedelic Film Club - ESPFC - is a collaboration between writer John Higgs, Andy Starke of Anti-Worlds and musician Richard Norris, which screens strange movies in the Westgate Chapel, Lewes. Very much a labour of love, the club resists moving to a larger venue, even if the chapel windows' lack of blinds means closing over the summer.

ESPFC started on January 26th, showing *Performance* alongside Kenneth Anger shorts. Subsequent events included Ben Wheatley's *A Field in England*, followed by a Q&A with the director and a double feature of Roger Corman's *The Trip* and *Un Chien Andalou*.

John Higgs spoke a little about the club on the Cineclub podcast: "It used to be, men of a certain age, if they got together for a drink, they'd probably start a podcast or something like that. We started a psychedelic film club, which I heartily recommend.... there's another room next to the main chapel where we show the screens. We pop a merch stand and a local brewery puts up a bar. A guy called Chris does all these projections of oil lamps on the walls. Richard Norris DJs. And that sort of second room is as important as the main hall."

In another interview, with the retrofuturism site, Higgs was asked what the film club aimed to achieve. Higgs replied: "I'm not sure we aim to achieve anything with it, to be honest, other than to ensure a room full of people come together and have a good night out. It's just intended to be jolly."

For the club's Christmas meeting there was a *Psychedelic Psecret Psanta Pswap Pshop* where people were encouraged to bring along a mind-expanding book, CD or DVD, preferably wrapped, which could be swapped with another audience member.

Neither of the editors have made it down to Lewes to attend the ESPFC, but are hoping someone will set up similar film clubs nearer to them. In the meantime, you can find out about new events through the ESPFC's mailing list or their Instagram:

https://espfc.beehiiv.com/
http://eris.orbific.com/287
https://www.instagram.com/espfc23/
http://eris.orbific.com/288

Horseplay

Run by Verity Spott and Anna Kista, Horseplay is a long-running Brighton event that provides a home for performance and spoken word. It's a welcoming environment for readers and "prides itself on being word of mouth and not ever being listed or advertised, besides 'a desultory presence' on FB". It takes place on the last Thursday of the month, Black Dove, 74 St James St, Kemptown, Brighton: 8pm, free.

Todmorden Folklore Centre

Todmorden Folklore Centre continues to put on regular events about folklore. The events are varied and always interesting, with recent topics including the Satanic Panic, UFOs and witch bottles. Highly recommended.

https://www.folkloremythmagic.com/
http://eris.orbific.com/323

Also in Todmorden is the monthly UFO society, which meets upstairs in the Golden Lion Pub.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1460139350955110/
http://eris.orbific.com/324

Crossbones Graveyard

Every 23rd of the month, a vigil takes place at Crossbones Graveyard, meeting at 7pm by the gates in Redcross Way, Southwark, London. This graveyard is the resting place of the 'Winchester Geese', sex workers who were licensed by the Bishop of Winchester in the 17th century. John Constable writes "In the next year, the graveyard will undergo extensive 'improvements'. Friends of Crossbones are looking to ensure that these do not impact on its historical, cultural and spiritual identity, and that the garden and shrines retain their 'DIY' character."

Grace Reeve has made a prize-winning audio documentary about Crossbones that was broadcast on Radio 4 and is available to listen to online:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0021xv3
https://eris.orbific.com/249

Hackney Marshes Solstice and Equinox

A group including the writer Thomas Sharp have been watching each solstice and equinox sunrise from a spot in Hackney Marshes. These events have occurred under the name 'we don't know what this is' because, as Sharp writers, "not being certain about things is very very important". There is an instagram account which contains a whatsapp link for more information:

https://www.instagram.com/wedontknowwhatthisis24/
https://eris.orbific.com/289

⛢ January 23rd - Book of Horkos

The Horkos ceremonies happen twice a year. A group of pledgers come together and commit to producing a work of art over the next six months. They write their vows in a huge, ornate book. If, at the end of the six months, any of these pledges are incomplete, then the book is burned, and the pledgers abstain from artistic creation for six months. This has proved a successful way of getting people to complete artistic projects. Once again, the book did not burn.

⛢ February 23th - Terminalia

Terminalia is an annual festival of psychogeography and walking that happens around February 23rd each year. It has been running since 2011. Last year's Terminalia featured events around Europe, including several run by Radical Stroud as well as the Ignore These Objects event from TUSK. More details are available on the festival's website:

https://terminaliafestival.org/
https://eris.orbific.com/290

⛢ February 29th - Circling the Square Mile

For the leap day, Thomas Sharp organised the world's biggest fairy ring, hiding bronze mushrooms in a one-mile circle around the city of London. Sharp suggests that "City Traders are the faery folk the old tales warned us about", offering deals that never work out for regular people, and he has committed to replanting this ring of mushrooms every four years in an act of binding.

https://thomassharp.substack.com/p/the-worlds-largest-faery-ring-feb
https://eris.orbific.com/291
https://www.instagram.com/p/C377Nq9Mlnx/
https://eris.orbific.com/292

⛢ April 12th - Shut Up and Die

Northampton Arts Lab held their *Shut Up and Die* event at the Lab in Charles Street. The event's announcement invited people to 'celebrate the life of somebody who never existed'. For just three pounds, audience members were offered a surreal cabaret: alongside poetry and music there was a magic ritual, a reverse striptease, and a musical performance from Cthulhu. You can follow the activities of the Arts Lab on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/artslabnh/
https://eris.orbific.com/293

⛪ May 4th - Caught by the River Day Out

Neither Dan nor James made it down to the village of Kingston near Lewes for Caught by the River's event, which featured a series of interviews between writers, including Tom Cox, Justin Hopper and Richard Norris, and a visit to the Gurdy Stone. The group also set up its first Ambient Church, taking over the 13th century St Pancras church for a programme of ambient music put together by Stone Club and the Folk Archive.

https://www.caughtbytheriver.net/2024/05/the-caught-by-the-river-day-out-2024-kingston-near-lewes/

🕸 ***https://eris.orbific.com/325***

⛪ May 23rd - Liverpool Arts Lab Ritual Walk

For the 5th year Liverpool Arts Lab marked the 23rd May with a ritual city walk. They carried an effigy of the White Stag, created in honour of the mythical messenger shot by Merseyside police in 2021. In Prince's Park there was spiral walking and roly-poly down muddy hills. In Aigburth there was ritual cleansing and honouring of the late great Jamie Reid. In Priory Woods they danced at the gates of George Melly's house and meditated on love and friendship. They passed through many portals to arrive at the site of 1984's International Garden Festival. They left haikus at the Chinese Pagoda before climbing a man-made hill overlooking the Mersey. In wind and driving rain we honoured Arts Lab's very own Hubert Huzzah (now deceased) before burning the stag effigy to release its spirit back into the great IS.

https://www.liverpoolartslab.com/

🕸 ***https://eris.orbific.com/326***

⛪ June 6th - Bank of England Banknote Burn

Writer CJ Stone has held a number of magical interventions in the City of London and, on June 6th, a money burning took place in the Temple of Vesta at the Bank of England. This marked the production of the first banknotes featuring the image of Charles Windsor. Notes were inscribed with a sigil designed by Julian Vayne before being burned. Stone explained that this ritual was an act of redemption.

https://christopherjamesstone.wordpress.com/2024/05/30/money-magic-and-the-imagination/

🕸 ***https://eris.orbific.com/294***

⛪ July 23rd - The Book of Horkos

2024's second Horkos ceremony took place in London. At the end of cycle 17, the book did not burn and cycle 18 began, with another series of artistic pledges, which will be listed in next year's parish news.

⛪ July 23rd - Maybe Day

Maybe Day is an annual celebration of the life of Robert Anton Wilson. This runs virtually and brings together interesting articles, videos, and audio. The event's website also contains an archive of past material.

http://maybeday.net/
https://eris.orbific.com/40

⛪ August 23 - The Whole of the Road

Sheffield Arts Lab celebrated the Roman Festival of Vulcanalia with a tour of Sheffield. *The Whole of the Road' – A Misguided Tour of Sheffield* was a piece of promenade theatre, featuring local historical entities being involved with 'ritual drama and magic'. The event explored the city's transition from commerce to culture.

https://www.facebook.com/groups/876899336126388
https://eris.orbific.com/327

⛪ August 30th-31st - Brian Catling Tribute

A tribute event in memory of Brian Catling (1948-2022) took place over two days at Candid Arts in London. This featured art, films and performances, including a number of people linked to the mycelium, as well as art by Noel Fielding and Stewart Home.

⛪ October 12th - Spirits of Place

Eight years after the previous event, Spirits of Place returned, this time at the Williamson Art Gallery in Birkenhead. This featured a day of talks around Sir Gawain and the Green Knight. The event was a fascinating exploration of place and folklore, run once again by John Reppion.

⛪ November 9 - The Final Unconvention

The Blank Badge cell was formed in 2019, inspired by Grant Morrison's comic book *The Invisibles*. The six members have met, in person and virtually, to create art, including performances, music, films and zines. In 2024 it was decided to wind the cell up, and a final exhibition was held at the All Good Bookshop in London.

https://www.facebook.com/InvisibleSalon
https://eris.orbific.com/328

🜁 November 23 - Toxteth Day of the Dead

The Toxteth Day of the Dead is an annual event that has been celebrated since 2017. The highlight of the day event is the addition of new bricks to the People's Pyramid. Each brick contains 23 grams of human ashes that have been fired into a brick, a process called Mumufication. The finished pyramid will contain 34,592 bricks and be 23 feet high. It's hoped that it will take up a permanent place in Toxteth. In February, the event was featured in the *Fortean Times*, which ran a three-page article about this new tradition.

The 2024 ceremonies were billed as *The Year of the Foghorn* and 26 bricks were added to the pyramid. The day started with activities at Liverpool's Adelphi hotel, with a series of Skools making preparations. A parade ran through Liverpool City centre, many of the participants wearing hi-viz jackets, to board a ferry across the Mersey. A contemplative krossing was made before everyone headed to Future Yard for the moving brick-laying ceremony The evening concluded with a katwalk from Sportsbanger and music till late from DiY Soundsystem.

You should be able to find out about future events by joining the mailing list:

https://www.thepeoplespyramid.org/contact/
🕸 ***https://eris.orbific.com/330***

🜁 December 21 - The Return of Maybe Day

An event in our future, which early readers might be interested in is Maybe Night, a Winter Solstice celebration of James Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*. Organised by Bobby Campbell, this is a spin-off from his July Maybe Day event. This will be running for the second year in 2024, At present, details for this event are scarce, but Campbell is collecting writing, art, music and video together. This will also include a winter solstice Maybelogues panel discussion. To participate, head to the URL on or after December 21st 2024. The panel discussion will take place at 1pm EST

https://www.maybeday.net/night
🕸 ***https://eris.orbific.com/328***

John Constable

We missed out last year's update from John Constable. John has been very active after moving to Glastonbury three years ago. This has included talks on 'The Grail', 'Mary Magdalene' and 'The Works', the latter charting John's own development as a writer and practising magician. John has also performed his poem Dod Cut The Cards' on two of the sites of the Dod Line, which links Stonehenge with Glastonbury, the Abbey and St Benedict's Church. Video is available of the Abbey House performance

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHP4P0M_Sh8
https://eris.orbific.com/332

John has performed in the community gatherings that mark the turning of the Wheel of the Year and at The Rose Concert held in the church of St John the Baptist. Every Halloween night for the last three years he has conducted 'Ancestor Souls / This Samhain Night'. This healing ritual drama grew out of 'The Halloween of Cross Bones' held over many Halloweens at the south London graveyard. He often performs his work to the mesmerising music of Queen Space Baroque:

https://johncrowandqueenspacebaroque.bandcamp.com/album/ancestor-souls
https://eris.orbific.com/333

Michaelmas 2023 brought the premiere of 'Avalon of the Heart' a film documenting a year in the esoteric life of Glastonbury. John;s 'George and The Dragon' Mummers Play, performed in The Abbey in 2022, featured in the film, which opened with the a poem from John's book 'Grail'

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=search&v=2218407965031053
https://eris.orbific.com/334

John has also performed with the in-house company at Glastonbury Festival's Underground Piano Bar (The Hole In The Ground) and at Nomad, a mini-festival where he collaborated with Queen Space Baroque for a lakeside performance.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xi3B0ekj9Ng

John has completed a new book, *Winging It*, which will tell the story of a magical life journey in 23 peak moments, including world travels, theatre and the cross-bones adventure, and this is now seeking a publisher. John's previous book, *Grail*, is available by emailing John directly at **gooseandcrow@gmail.com**.

How to start an Arts Lab

(Just Do It!)

by LouLou Whalley

1. Decide to start an Arts Lab
2. Start the Arts Lab
3. Have fun
4. Show others how to create an Arts Lab
5. Do stuff. Put stuff on. Share stuff. Learn. Teach. Create. Share. Enjoy!
6. Repeat where'er you are

Starting an Arts Lab can be as simple as setting a date to meet some like-minded people around a pub or café table. Maybe put up a few flyers to bring in people you don't yet know. Once people are settled around a table, pass around a book to collect people's skills and details. Ask people what they are into, and see what collaborations might emerge. Don't say no to anything - instead reply: "That's a good idea - how would we do it?". Your ideas can be small or large.

WABRI by Dave Lee

Egregore Power

This series of open workings is an experiment in using social media to empower a helper spirit. It's a product of group mind, so it's an egregore entity.

This is the original sigil for the entity WABRI, the function of which is to make sure that *weapons of mass destruction are never used.*

Background

The original spell - 'From SNAFU to FUBAR - Five Spanners in the War-Machine' - was performed at a public Discordian event in 2018, Catch-23. Since then, we've been developing and networking it. Over 50 magical practitioners have been involved so far.

Sigils were made by other participants, all based on the first one. To see some of them and for more details on WABRI check out this blog post:

https://chaotopia-dave.blogspot.com/2024/01/egregore-against-weapons-of-mass.html

https://eris.orbific.com/295

WHAT WABRI CONSISTS OF

The original sigil is a bindrune, made of the runes WUNJO, ANSUZ, BERKANO, RAIDHO, ISA. It's a 5-pronged attack on WMDs.

The meanings we ascribed to those runes for the purposes of this working are:

WUNJO: The laughter of the universe banishes the insanity of mass destruction
ANSUZ: The weapons don't work
BERKANO: When it comes to it, people won't push the button and launch WMDs
RAIDHO: In the eye of the real, how can this possibly happen?
ISA: The snow of ISA falls into military temples

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED IN THIS BIT OF MAGICAL WORK?

Then please make your own copy of the sigil, so you've got it for yourself, not just on public media. You might want to sing the name WABRI, sing the component runes if you like, contemplate the sigil and the meanings of its runes.

Feel free to post your sigil up on social media, maybe with the magical intention - *WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION ARE NEVER USED* - and invite other people to do likewise.

Collective Joy and Collective Ownership of Ritual

By Paul Watson

One thing I'm starting to learn about Hastings is that the people here know how to make their own community entertainment.

That's probably because it's considered too small for any major touring events itself, but that was also the case with Brighton & Hove.

However in Brighton & Hove you're only an hour away from London on the train, and they run a couple of times an hour until 1am, so you could fairly confidently know that you can travel back from a late evening event in London (well, as confident as you can be in a privatised railway system where cutting services is seen as preferable to a shareholder missing out on a nice fat dividend).

Hastings is an additional half hour away from London on the train compared to Brighton, which thankfully - for property prices and rents - puts it just outside London's more expensive commuter zone. Add to that the fact that the trains from London to Hastings only run about once an hour, and if you miss the 11:45pm departure then you're not going to get back to Hastings until 5:24am, and you can see that attending an evening event in London is fraught with the threat of spending the night shivering on cold station platforms.

Whatever the reason, Hastings knows how to make its own community entertainment: the three big ones are the Hastings Jack-in-the-Green festival in May, Hastings Pirate Festival in July, and the Hastings Borough Bonfire Society's Torchlit Procession, Bonfire & Fireworks in October.

The events themselves are not centuries old. The Jack-in-the-Green festival started in 1983, a revival - more accurately, a reinvention - of an event that died out in the early 20th century. Hastings Pirate Weekend started in 2009. The current Hastings Bonfire Society' dates from 1985, as a revival of a tradition that had more or less died out by the early 20th century apart from a few small-scale attempted revivals that limped along in the years following the Second World War.

What's interesting to me - particularly for the first two of those three - is the active participation of the wider local community.

For Jack-in-the-Green nearly everyone coming along either wears a green costume (often bedecked with leaves) or, at the very least, takes advantage of one of the many green face-painters plying their trade.

For the Hastings Pirate Festival you'll see many local people - and again I'm talking about the people coming along, not the volunteers who run and perform it - dressed up like pirates. In both events the line between participant and viewer seems to be deliberately erased so that they become more active community rituals as opposed

to passive spectator events.

I suspect that it's only the health & safety regulations governing the flaming torches carried as the Bonfire Procession proceeds through the Old Town and along the front, and the massive bonfire and organised firework display on the beach that stop an active community involvement in this event as well.

Even the roaming gangs of teenagers - usually surlily dismissive of any events their parents enjoy - seem to join in. Okay, maybe it's the increased chance of being served alcohol because the harried staff in the pubs and off-licences are run off their feet and don't have time to check IDs. Or maybe it's the lure of the slightly anarchic and surreal atmosphere where all the rules seem to have been lifted for the day that hints of a World Turned Upside Down, the Feast of Fools, and Saturnalia. Or maybe it's simply a fear of the worst thing imaginable: the fear of missing out. Whatever the reason, they're participating too.

While all these events attract a multitude of street hawkers and contribute significantly to the annual incomes of local shops, pubs, and traders, they are organised by volunteers relying on donations, and are free to attend and are not otherwise commercialised or ticketed.

What also interests me is how people are apparently ascribing their own meanings and myths to these rituals, particularly the Jack-in-the-Green festival. This is exactly what the proponents of the "primacy of ritual" hypothesis believe happens: that myth and religious doctrine result from ritual, rather than rituals being created to commemorate, re-enact, or revere existing beliefs.

This is a town making its own entertainment and - probably because of that - actively participating in it and feeling a sense of collective joy and collective ownership, rather than passively consuming spectacle.

Thank you to Paul Watson who originally published this on his website

https://www.lazaruscorporation.co.uk/blogs/artists-notebook/posts/collective-joy-collective-ownership-of-ritual

https://eris.orbific.com/216

Church of Burn

May Melusine's Blessings Be Upon You, dear Reader!

By the time you read this, our new website will have launched and a new magical action will be underway: a meta-ritual involving money sacrifices at Cathedrals, Churches and other places of worship combined with a retelling of their creation stories. Did you know that the sacrifice of coins was common to the mediaeval building process?

This past year then, has mainly been one of preparation. Although we did enact communion on the Summer Solstice 2024. The beautiful moment when the rising Sun's rays caught the flame of a burning $5 bill - and the whole sky seemed to ignite in a blaze of divine and glorious sacrificial light - will stay with all of us blessed to witness it.

The New Website

Our Solstice Sacrifice and all notable events in our Church's history are chronicled on the new website. You'll also find a fine selection of Church Merch; very handy as we approach Burnmass and the season of gift giving. Readers of Mycelium Parish News will find the "Our Mythos" section especially compelling. Drawing on Neitzsche we declare that "Truths are coins without currency". Our solemn duty is to avow the feeling of magic; to never

write-down the value of synchronicity to the bargain of coincidence. We proclaim;

"Magic is real.
And more.
In its infinite possibility, magic is the creative source of the material world."

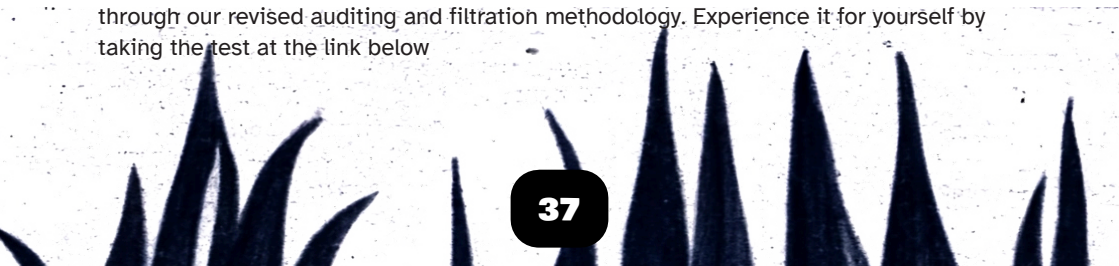
Opposition to Our Church

Of course, the Burners' Revolutionary Council (BRC) are having none of it. They seem to delight in their antipathy toward us. Their materialist creed demands a strange fusion of extreme asceticism and sacrifice - strange because for them sacrifice becomes a wholly utilitarian affair.

We're told the BRC intends to boycott our Church Merch and distribute pirated copies of all our Holy Texts. One day they - and our other detractors - will realise that at the centre of all creation is not purity, but purification. And that we cannot move toward a state of grace by trampling over those we consider Unworthy.

#TakeTheTest

Our Church upholds the ideals of purification over purity, and grace over disdain, through our revised auditing and filtration methodology. Experience it for yourself by taking the test at the link below



Our Pilgrimage

Reflection upon matters theological and a growing sense of his own mortality - the Brick of Mu is working its magic - has gifted our High Priest with a vision of our Church's future. Our Pilgrimage is a meta-ritual designed to extend beyond Revd Jonathan's lifetime.

It will unfold publicly. And it will be accessible to anyone able to decipher its pattern. However, creative involvement with the precise itinerary and the re-narration of each destination's history will be limited to members of The Vestry.

Burn. Shine.
All Hail, The Staff!

https://churchofburn.org/pages/takethetest
https://eris.orbific.com/331

In Memory

Hubert Huzzah

After a short illness, Hubert Huzzah died in March this year. He was an active member of Liverpool Arts Lab and Surrealpool. His contributions to *Krill*, Liverpool Arts Lab's *Bodge* magazine and *Patastrophe* can be found online. Robin (aka the Lion) remembered Huzzah as "'An almighty Bodger of words, a delightful wielder of language. The Cathar Potato". In a heartfelt open letter, Thomas de Toxteth (aka Enthusiasm) wrote: "That we will no longer be treated to your digressive linguistic peregrinations is a matter of no small sadness... I do hope you knew with pride and happiness just how much your awesomeness was appreciated."

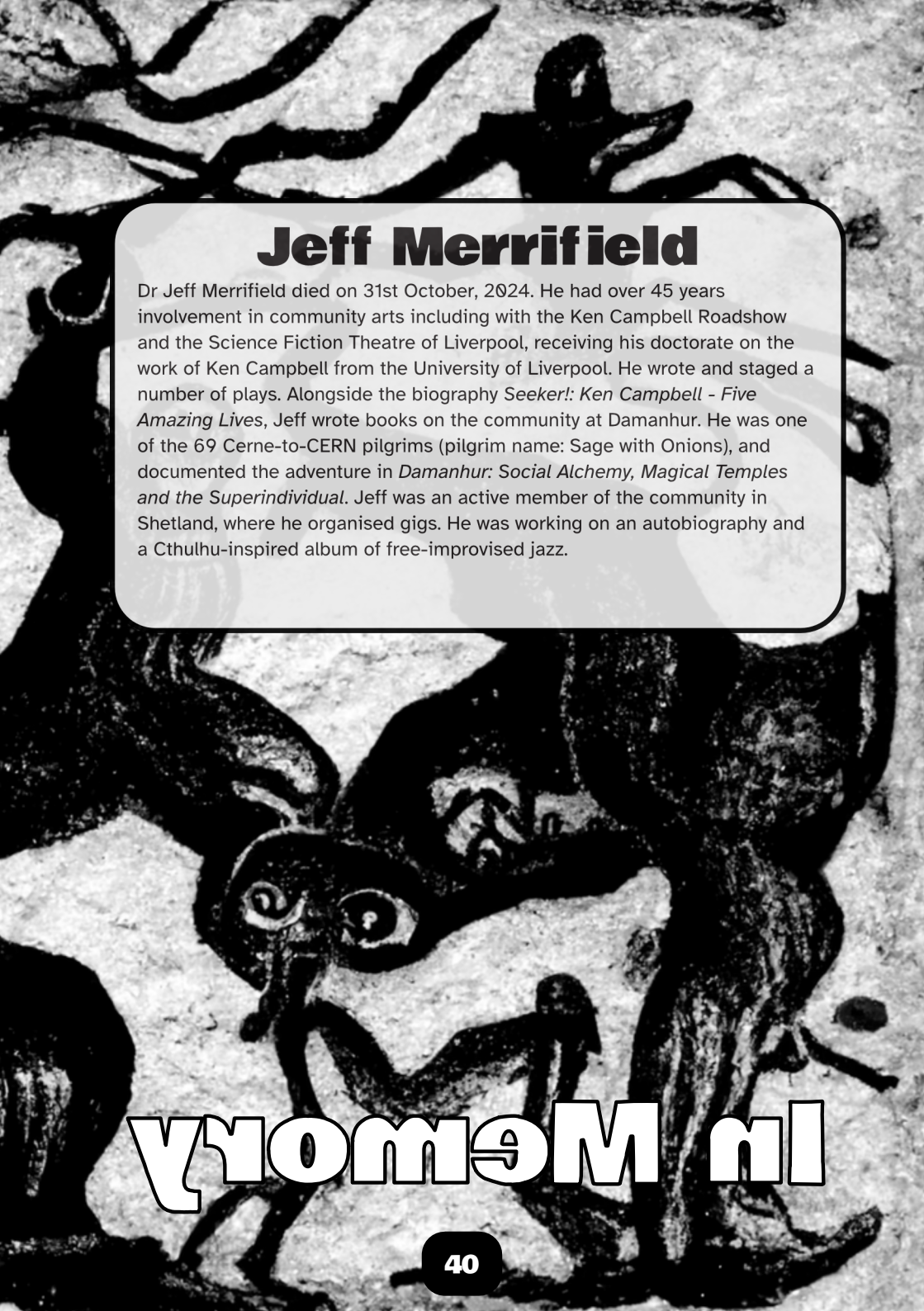
Jo Mitch writes

Your Magnificence
sur Hubert Huzzah (postmortuarist),
How may I reveal your presence best to those who know not of you?

Let's begin with the Bodge, and the bodgering of chairs 12, aligned upon a lay line. Who sits now with the infamous and angry ghost? For this is the mystery you have posed about knowing beyond an Earthly existence in one time period, to another. Since the bodgered chairs still exist, let's sit together. You must have attended Liverpool Art Lab meetings beneath the mural of truth over time, and read how the leaves will heal the Earth? The Naked Life model, Bill Drummond's pal and fake art eh? But what else did you give me other than 11 infamous pages of Bodge, and The Refugee Detection Device Part 1? You didn't like the council, or the Cabal, anti bodgers they were indeed, but you did take the sovereign! Invaders you said. I said it's a question of belief. That which never dies, never dies, and Hubert Huzzah lives on in the spirit of excellence and worldly precision. That was all Art Lab fun and games.

Did they really concur to censure your words? The dryads WILL get them.

https://www.patreon.com/c/Hubert_Huzzah/posts
https://eris.orbific.com/337



Jeff Merrifield

Dr Jeff Merrifield died on 31st October, 2024. He had over 45 years involvement in community arts including with the Ken Campbell Roadshow and the Science Fiction Theatre of Liverpool, receiving his doctorate on the work of Ken Campbell from the University of Liverpool. He wrote and staged a number of plays. Alongside the biography *Seeker!: Ken Campbell - Five Amazing Lives*, Jeff wrote books on the community at Damanhur. He was one of the 69 Cerne-to-CERN pilgrims (pilgrim name: Sage with Onions), and documented the adventure in *Damanhur: Social Alchemy, Magical Temples and the Superindividual*. Jeff was an active member of the community in Shetland, where he organised gigs. He was working on an autobiography and a Cthulhu-inspired album of free-improvised jazz.

In Memory

Commoner's Choir by Jane C

2024 was a year of anniversaries for Commoners. They went to the Isle of Jura, singing by the sea, up hills, in a chapel and to an enthusiastic audience of one cyclist on the road to Barnhill, where George Orwell wrote 1984, published 75 years ago. They wrote a song about the trip (*Burning the Bones*) and sang it next to the infamous boathouse where The K Foundation burned a million in 1994 (30 years later Gimpo was back with Commoners, scorning the poshed-up boathouse now providing sommat or other to 5 star luxury golfers). The choir made a pile of their favourite books on the beach, to be saved instead of burnt.

It was 50 years since the Ramones formed, so Commoners did a sell out concert with West Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra featuring 4 part harmonies of Ramones songs (the choir rule is 'no covers', but allowed them in collaborations. If you can't rebel against your own rules, eh? Hey! Ho!).

The choir also went to the Fete of Britain in Manchester, where they wrote and performed a song with Brian Eno. John Higgs was there talking about modern myths and Jamie Kelsey Fry did Citizens Assembly stuff. Check out Hard Art, a cultural collective of artists and musicians, who organised the Fete.

In October the choir masked up for the Winter Droving festival in Penrith, singing gigs around town then the magnificent paganish torchlit procession.

Next year Commoners Choir will be celebrating their 10th birthday with a film and...who knows what else? Well, for starters they'll be joining Jeremy Deller and the Paraorchestra in a two-day musical procession across the hills for Bradford2025, and visiting Catalan anarchist choir Inchordis for the anniversary of Franco's death.

For more details about the choir including how to join:

http://commonerschoir.com
https://eris.orbific.com/48

Commoners' holiday album featuring *Burning the Bones*

https://youtu.be/dcfxpT9XP4Q
https://eris.orbific.com/217

Hard Art

https://hardart.metalabel.com/introducing-hard-art
https://eris.orbific.com/218

The Bradford Progress

https://bradford2025.co.uk/event/the-bradford-progress/
https://eris.orbific.com/219

THOUGHT for the DAY

“Nature has a story force that powerfully takes us to the next stage of whatever this human project is all about. And we meddle with the story at our peril. Because once we impose a mythology of capitalism or a mythology of Christianity or any great overarching theory of everything; rationalism or scientism or materialism, we actually start to kill the mycelium that is building stories that need to be told, the stories that the deepest, deepest forces need to tell.”

Daisy Campbell

https://apiarystudios.org/antenna/dreamaturgy
https://eris.orbific.com/48